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The Tech
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Volume 136, Number 29

Thursday, October 20, 2016

WEATHER, p. 2

THU: 61°F | 58°F
Mostly cloudy

FRI: 72°F | 57°F
Thunderstorms

SAT: 58°F | 44°F
Windy

Ban on freshmen still rankles Senior House community

Turnaround committee explores program for alumni mentorship

By Isabelle Phinney

Senior House's turnaround that Chancellor Cynthia Barnhart PhD '88 announced over the summer is well underway with committees tackling substantive issues, but the turnaround has not been a completely smooth process.

For upperclassmen across campus, the arrival of freshmen to the dorms signals the beginning of a new year — but for some Senior House residents, who did not welcome freshmen into their community this fall, the year does not seem to have begun.

Tensions from last spring persist, and residents are having a difficult time adjusting to the new semester without freshmen to provide the dorm with a fresh perspective, energy, and enthusiasm.

"It's very hard as a community to grow and look forward when you don't have freshmen," Senior House President Sarah Melvin '17 said. She added that the building is "also just kind of empty — a lot of empty rooms. It's just not as dynamic as it usually is.

Senior House, Page 6

IN SHORT

Flu shots will be available today from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the second floor of W20.

Second quarter P.E. classes begin Monday, Oct. 31.

Family weekend is the weekend of Oct. 28.

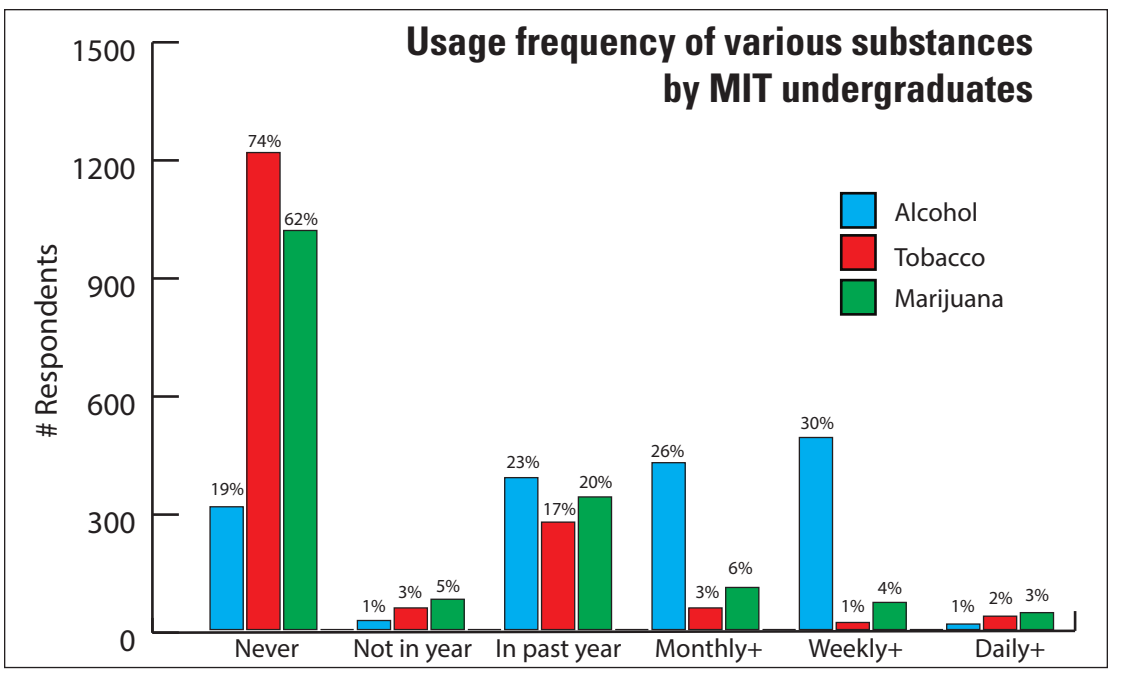
A landmark drinking fountain near 26-026 was replaced with a new fountain earlier this month.

Send news and tips to *news@tech.mit.edu.*

Alcohol and Drug Survey

To view the full results of *The Tech*'s survey, visit *https://thetech.com/*.

Email *news@tech.mit.edu* or visit *The Tech* (W20-483) between 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. any weekday until Oct. 25 with questions or comments.



INFOGRAPHIC BY COLLEEN MADLINGER, EBER NOLASCO-MARTINEZ, OLIVIA BRODE-ROGER

Marijuana more popular than tobacco products, survey finds

Results from The Tech's 2015 survey on drugs and alcohol, measuring usage and attitudes, are now available online

By Katherine Nazemi
EDITOR IN CHIEF

A majority of MIT students have never smoked tobacco or marijuana, but drink alcohol on a monthly or weekly basis. Most feel confident in their ability to care for someone who they believe has had too much to drink; in the 12 months prior to taking *The Tech*'s alcohol and drug survey, 45 percent of respondents had encountered at least one person they thought was in physical danger as a result of alcohol poisoning. Respondents from Senior House, fraternities, and off-campus living groups were more likely than other students to have tried marijuana in the year before the survey was administered.

In spring 2015, *The Tech* surveyed all undergraduates about their use of and attitudes toward alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, and other drugs. The survey was anonymous and garnered 1,647 total responses. Each demographic question was optional; students were asked about their living group, gender, class year, and greek affiliation. An interactive display on *The Tech*'s website, *https://thetech.com*, enables the breakdown of data by answers to demographic questions.

Alcohol

—Almost one-third of undergraduates drink alcohol weekly or more.

—Most students have drunk alcohol before age 21. Seventy-five percent of total respondents had drunk while underage.

—By residence, Senior House and fraternity residents had the highest percentage of students who had drunk underage, and McCormick and Next had the lowest.

Marijuana

—More students have smoked marijuana than tobacco.

—Of those who have smoked, 20 percent have done so in the past year. Three percent reported daily use.

—By residence, marijuana was

Survey, Page 3

ANSELMO CASSIANO—THE TECH

Matthew James Herper '99 manages Forbes's online and print coverage of healthcare topics.

Alumni Affairs series features Forbes Senior Editor Herper '99

James Matthew Herper '99, Senior Editor at Forbes Magazine, was the first featured speaker to be featured by the UA Alumni Affairs Committee's Unconventional Career Paths Alumni Speaker Series on Oct. 19.

During his presentation to the graduates and undergraduates students who attended, he told several stories from his life and career.

He joined Forbes.com in 2000 to cover the Human Genome Project and has written thousands of stories on topics ranging from genetics and drug discovery to health economics and public health.

His 2011 cover profile of Bill Gates defended what he called one of humanity's greatest achievements: the vaccine.

When he was asked what he knew now that he would have preferred to know freshman year, he said that MIT students should believe more in themselves. In the life things sometimes get better without necessarily getting easier, he said.

As a student, he created a newspaper called the *MIT Observer* because he thought there was more room for science writing at MIT. Today, he is very passionate about his career as a journalist. That the passion is necessary in order to remain a journalist instead of switching to a more high-paying job like public relations, he said.

He is a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism in New York.

—Anselmo Cassiano

GOODBYE, ALCATOR C-MOD
A decommissioning.
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SPOILER ALERT
Third party candidates have value.
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EVERYTHING IS FASHION
For those seeking style. **ARTS, p. 11**

JAZZ GREATS
Avant-garde and fresh.
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WORK HARD, PLAY HARD
Women's tennis is 8-0.
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WEATHER

Summer weather can't last forever: windy and rainy days ahead

By Lily Dove
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

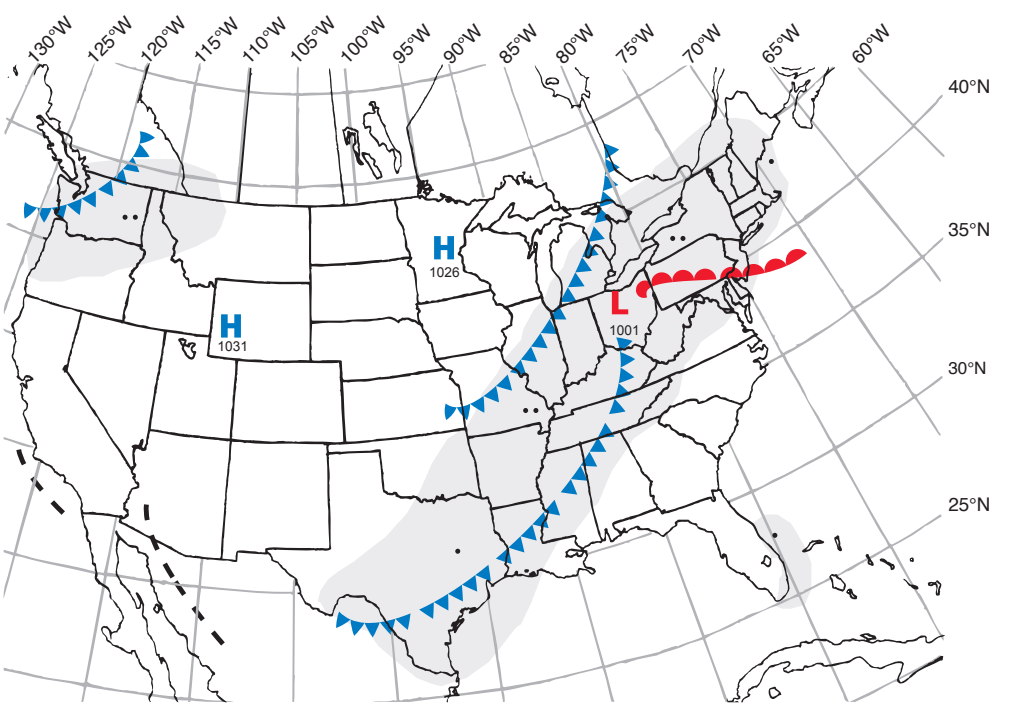
This week has had quite the juxtaposition of autumn leaves with temperatures up to 80°F (27°C). Hope you all got your Instagram pictures taken because these temperatures won't be sticking around much longer! In fact, seven years ago this week, Boston had already had its first snowfall of the season. Up to four inches fell in the Boston area on October 19, 2009 resulting in unhappy Patriots fans due to a nearly snowed-out game and bemused Florida-raised college students.

No chance of snow just yet, but it may be time to start bringing sweaters back into your wardrobe. The end of the week will be a bit waterlogged with a chance of thunderstorms on Friday due to a low front moving up through the northeast U.S.

Boston is in for strong winds accompanied by cloudy skies over the weekend. Hopefully we'll have a few more picturesque days to spend out on Killian Court before the snowboots come out.

Extended Forecast

Today: Mostly cloudy. High of 61°F (16°C). Winds 10-15 mph out of the East.
Tonight: Chance of rain through the night. Low of 58°F (14°C). Winds from the Southeast at 10-20 mph.
Tomorrow: Thunderstorms in the afternoon. High of 72°F (22°C), low of 57°F (14°C). Winds about 10 mph from the Northeast.
Saturday: Light morning rain and mostly cloudy. High of 58°F (14°C), low of 44°F (7°C). Strong winds (up to 25 mph) from the West.
Sunday: Partly cloudy. High of 54°F (11°C), low of 45°F (5°C). Winds 15-20 mph from the West.



Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Thursday, October 20, 2016

Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols			Other Symbols
H High Pressure	Trough		Snow	Rain	Fog
L Low Pressure	Warm Front	Showers	* ▽	• ▽	Thunderstorm
§ Hurricane	Cold Front	Light	*	•	Haze
	Stationary Front	Moderate	**	••	
		Heavy	⁂	∴	

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and *The Tech*

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Alums help MIT near its Capital goal

The Campaign for a Better World is $300 million closer to its target

By Anshula Gandhi

The MIT Campaign for a Better World has raised $2.9 billion of its $5 billion goal since the campaign officially launched May 6.

The campaign began its quiet phase in July 2011, and by May 2016, it had already raised $2.6 billion. The official campaign announcement was strategically timed to coincide with the eve of Moving Day – MIT's 100-year celebration of the move across the Charles.

The priorities of this capital campaign remain funding scientific research, improving the health of the planet, improving human health, fostering innovation and entrepreneurship, improving education, and attracting the best faculty and students to MIT, encompassing contributions to financial aid, student life, research support, and campus infrastructure.

A major portion of funds raised so far has come not from corporations or foundations, but rather from MIT alumni. In May, 46 percent of donations came from alumni; that number has now increased to 58 percent.

In response, the campaign adopted a strategy to reach MIT alums via "Campaign Roadshows," in which MIT, with the help of the Alumni Association and a regional host committee, host galas in alumni-dense regions. New York City and San Francisco are the first cities on the list, with the New York event set for Oct 20. Alumni have shown a strong interest – these events are almost at capacity.

The exact breakdown of how money will be spent across the six priorities has not been set in stone. However, funds from the first years of the campaign have already contributed to the introduction of the Jameel Water and Food Security Lab, the establishment of the Center for Advanced Urbanism, and the plans for a creation of a large makerspace in the Met Warehouse. They have also gone to scholarships and fellowships.

The administration is excited about the progress thus far. "We touched a chord that resonates deeply not only on our campus, but with our alumni and friends everywhere," President L. Rafael Reif said. "I look forward to hitting the road in the weeks and months ahead to catch up with alumni and friends and find new ways to work together to live up to our shared vision for MIT as a tremendous force for good."

The fundraising campaign has no firm end date. "Our goal is $5 billion" said Julie Lucas, vice president for resource development. "We will make a decision about continuing the campaign past the goal when we reach that point."

JOIN THE TECH!
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75% of respondents drank underage

Residents of Senior House, EC, Baker more likely to try marijuana

Survey, from Page 1

most common Senior House, fraternities, and off-campus living groups. Restricted to dorms, students in Senior House, East Campus, and Baker were most likely to have tried it at least once.

Other drugs

—*The Tech* asked students about their use of a number of other drugs, including cocaine, heroin, meth, whippets, LSD, and Ketamine. Of these, the most popular were whippets, LSD, and Ketamine, with 19 percent, 12 percent, 2.5 percent, respectively, having used them at least once.

Attitudes and knowledge:

—Students reported their own attitudes toward patterns of drug use, and were asked to rate how they felt their attitudes compared to those of the average MIT student.

—Regarding regular use of marijuana, people rated other students' views as more liberal than their own. McCormick had the highest, and Senior House the lowest, rate of people responding that they viewed the behavior negatively or very negatively.

—Most respondents feel confident or very confident in their ability to care for someone who has had too much to drink but does not need attention from medical professionals. This rate is higher among greek affiliated students.

Every survey question, and a summarized version of the full dataset, is accessible on *The Tech*'s website. Contact *news@tech.mit.edu* to ask questions or suggest new perspectives.

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Kunming University of Science & Technology
Fuzhou University
Qinghai University
Huazhong University of Science & Technology (Wuhan)
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```
X = SparseAutoEncoder(num_hidden=10).fit_transform(features)
xycoords = TSNE(random_state=17).fit_transform(X)
DBS = cluster.DBSCAN().fit(X)
plt.scatter(xycoords[:, 0],  xycoords[:, 1], color=colors[DBS.labels_])
```

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OPINION OPINION OPINION

The role of third parties in the 2016 election

The inherent value of greater choice

By Daniel Perry

If this tumultuous election season has shown anything, it is that voters want change; this fact has caused political upheavals in the two major parties. In the primaries, a field of 16 Republicans representing almost every faction of the party was swept aside by a bombastic real estate mogul who was a registered Democrat as recently as in 2008. The Democrats faced their own insurgency with a self-identified "Democratic Socialist" receiving 43 percent of the primary votes in a party that had recently prided itself on offering a centrist "Third Way." But in the brawl of the subsequent general election campaign, a less apparent spectacle has been playing out on the margins – third party candidates have experienced a huge surge of support.

The wildly unpopular nominees of the two major parties have given third parties an opening in this election season. Donald Trump's approval rating stands at an abysmal 35 percent and Hillary Clinton's is not much higher at 43 percent. In September, a whopping 63 percent of electorate said they were "not at all satisfied" or "not too satisfied" with the major party candidates. As a result, the two major third parties, the Greens and the Libertarians, have managed to bring their support to near-record highs.

In September, a whopping 63 percent of the electorate said they were "not at all satisfied" or "not too satisfied" with the major party candidates.

The Green Party's standard-bearer Jill Stein is currently polling at three percent, and the source of this support is fairly clear. Offering an impeccably progressive platform, she is an obvious answer to former supporters of democratic primary candidate Bernie Sanders who are not willing to vote for Hillary Clinton. However, Stein suffers from the difficulty that her program of radical economic reform enjoys little widespread support. Furthermore, her most fervent supporters are young voters, a demographic not known for its reliability in going to the polls.

American politics has almost always been dominated by two major parties, and this dynamic is built into the very structure of our elections.

The Libertarians under Gary Johnson, a former Republican Governor of New Mexico, have acquired a more motley group of supporters. With a unique platform that combines radical isolationism, cultural liberalism, and the near-unqualified support of laissez faire economic policies, the party has gained supporter spanning a range from disaffected millennials to Never Trump Republicans. With over 400,000 registered Libertarian voters and poll numbers at eight percent, the Libertarians make up the largest third party in the United States.

However, like the Greens, they are suffering from substantial difficulties. Despite vigorous campaigning, Johnson failed to meet the 15 percent cutoff set by the Commission on Presidential Debates to participate in the debates, depriving him of critical media coverage, and Mr. Johnson's frequent gaffes, from his lack of knowledge of the plight of Aleppo, to his inability to name a single foreign leader he admires, has significantly impeded his support among many voters put off by the two major candidates.

Indeed, despite their increasing support, it is extremely unlikely that either third party candidate will get more than a handful of votes in the electoral college (if any), let alone win the presidency. American politics has almost always been dominated by two major parties, and this dynamic is built into the very structure of our elections. Our first-past-the-post system makes it very hard for third parties to gain any representation, even if these parties have substantial support. Moreover, it is extraordinarily difficult for a third party to actually replace one of the major parties due to the massive resources that the incumbents command.

This reality raises the question of what exactly the role of third parties is. The harshest interpretation is that they are "vote stealers," hurting the outcome of the major party candidate whose positions are closest to theirs. This is the criticism leveled against Ralph Nader, whose bid for the presidency in 2000 is widely believed to have given Florida to Bush, costing Gore the election. It is still possible that one of the third parties could replicate Nader and tilt a swing state, but Clinton's growing lead is making such a scenario increasingly unlikely.

However, even if third party bids have little chance of affecting who ends up in the White House, they do serve other roles. They can shine a spotlight on issues that are being neglected by the major parties, pulling them into the mainstream. As Ralph Nader, the most successful third party candidate in the 21st century said,

"[A vote for a third party is] not a wasted vote at all. They get things underway that the two parties are ignoring taking off the table. The Liberty Party in 1840 that went out against slavery. The Women's Right to Vote Parties in the mid-nineteenth century, the Farmer's Labor Party... they never won a national election but they push[ed] the envelope."

Nader's argument has recent precedents, as well. In the United Kingdom, many believe that the tiny third party UKIP, holding just one out of 650 seats in the House of Commons, was responsible for garnering support for the referendum on the UK's membership in the European Union that ultimately led to Brexit. However, the current emotion-dominated, policy-light election in the U.S. would not exactly be well described as issues-based, so although this role may be quite important, it is unlikely that third parties are effectively playing it now.

Yet third parties are serving an important fundamental purpose in this election. For millions of citizens who are unsatisfied with the current state of political affairs, third parties allow voters to continue to participate in the political process. Some voters see in the platforms of third parties a better expression of their own views. Two party systems naturally lead to awkward coalitions, and it is not hard to see, for example, how someone who supports the Democrats on social issues might not support that party's belief in more stringent financial regulation. For some other voters, third parties may be an indirect means to express disapproval of the two major parties and to assert a demand for better options.

For millions of citizens who are unsatisfied with the current state of political affairs, third parties allow voters to continue to participate in the political process.

Regardless of voters' particular motivations at the ballot box, third parties undeniably give them more choice. The existence of third parties therefore helps protect one our nation's most valuable assets: an engaged citizenry. In this way, no matter how much these parties may stay on the margins of American democracy, they will remain central to its success.

Alcator C-mod is decommissioned after 23 years in use

DOE funds for fusion energy will now go toward construction of the ITER in France, to open 2027

By Melody Tan
STAFF WRITER

After 23 years of service, Alcator C-mod, MIT's nuclear fusion reactor, was decommissioned on Sept. 30, 2016.

The reactor achieved record-breaking plasma pressures a day prior, thus yielding promising results for the future of fusion energy on its very last day of operation.

Earl Marmar, senior research scientist at MIT and head of the Alcator C-mod project, presented the results at the International Atomic Energy Agency Fusion Energy Conference in Kyoto, Japan this Monday.

Nuclear fusion requires great pressure and temperature in order to overcome the repulsion between positively-charged nuclei. Alcator C-mod is a tokamak, a reactor that uses a cage of magnetic fields to confine plasma twice as hot as the sun's core. The scientists behind Alcator C-mod chose to use stronger magnetic fields to increase pressure and energy yield instead of increasing the size of the reactor itself.

On Sept. 30, the pressure inside Alcator C-mod reached over 2 atmospheres, or 15 percent higher than the previous record in 2005 and about 70 percent higher than pressures achieved by any non-Alcator device.

The results "validate the high-field approach," Martin Greenwald, the deputy director of the MIT Plasma Science and Fusion Center (PSFC), said in an interview with The Tech. "In a sense, the plasma pressure translates directly to the fusion power density… it demonstrates that we're on the right track."

Despite being slated for shutdown in 2013, funding for Alcator C-mod was extended in 2014 and 2015. The U.S. Department of Energy allocated over $22 million to the MIT tokamak as part of its 2015 Fusion Budget, but also stipulated that "fiscal year 2016 will be the final year of funding for Alcator C-Mod."

The C-mod team had already been planning to end their experiments when they received initial news of funding cuts in 2012.

"We wanted to look beyond Alcator C-mod in any case," Greenwald said. "It happened sooner than we wanted, but the machine did run for 23 years… In the end, it's pushing us in the direction we want to go."

DOE funds for fusion energy research will now go toward the construction of the multilaterally-funded International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) in Saint-Paul-lès-Durance, France. ITER is set to begin operations in 2027.

ITER has been many years in the making, but its construction has been delayed by frequent setbacks and financial difficulties. ITER is many hundreds of times larger than the MIT tokamak, but C-mod's recent breakthrough showed that fusion can also be feasible in a small reactor.

"The argument is that by using higher field technology, we can build machines smaller and faster. We want fusion soon enough to make a difference," Greenwald said. "That's one of the worrisome things about ITER. It's not just large, it's taking a long time."

With over 100 professors, students, scientists, engineers, and technicians participating in the project when it ended, the decommissioning of Alcator C-mod marks the end of MIT's largest experiment at the time. The PSFC website states that Alcator C-mod has produced "a wealth of new and important results since the experiment began operation in 1993."

The PSFC itself will remain in operation. Nuclear Engineering professor Anne White clarified that research, including Undergraduate Research Opportunities, will continue. Plans have been made to shift the focus of research toward improving superconducting and magnetic technology.

"You know, these machines, they come and go. You build them; you do research; they shut down," Greenwald said. Although the PSFC is seeking federal funding for new experiments, he added, it is also exploring the idea of private funding, partially through the MIT Energy Initiative.

Despite the closing of its fusion counterpart, the MIT fission reactor (MITR) remains operational.

This Thursday, Oct. 20, at 1 p.m., the Alcator C-mod team will hold an Ask Me Anything (AMA) session at www.reddit.com/r/science/ to answer questions about the recent record, the decommissioning, or fusion and reactor operation in general.

MATI K. ALEMAYEHU

Dance group Mocha Moves performed at this year's SK Late Night on Sunday.

Students: turnaround goals aren't well-communicated

Residents fear admins made decisions based on rumors and stereotypes, not on day-to-day realities

Senior House, from Page 1

There are a lot of locked doors."

Residents have expressed frustration at the lack of clear-cut criteria from the administration. For many residents, their primary goal is to reach a position where freshmen are allowed to live in the dorm again.

Mehendale said, "Right now we're being asked to define the metrics for our own success, but it's kind of confusing because we haven't been told what we did wrong, so we're not sure what [the administration is] looking for."

The Turnaround Team is made up of the Steering Committee and four supporting committees, which handle issues surrounding community, self-governance, academic and personal well-being, and space. Each committee includes undergraduate Senior House residents, alumni, faculty, and an administrator.

Initially, several undergraduate committee members, including co-president James Handy '18, were unable to attend scheduled Turnaround Team meetings due to time conflicts. However, after residents brought the issue to light, the Chancellor worked with students to reschedule the meetings.

The committees have been working on a variety of projects including substance-abuse prevention and an alumni mentorship program. The space committee has created dedicated study spaces and held a meeting in September to hear resident suggestions and requests for the new rooms. In addition, Senior House is purchasing an Athena Cluster per student request.

In addition, construction to convert first floor rooms into apartments has been ongoing since August. The apartments will house a visiting artist as well as Kristen Covino, the new assistant head of house.

At the beginning of the school year, the construction started early each morning, causing issues for students living nearby. However, with the assistance of administrators, the hours were negotiated to a later time, and construction will be halted during finals week. Barnhart stated that the construction will be completed before Thanksgiving.

Senior House is known for its often unconventional and sex-positive REX events. However, these events are, in some ways, more for show and tradition than to provide an accurate representation of day-to-day Senior House life.

Senior House resident Ru Mehendale '20 said that "people in Senior House perpetuate the rumors because we don't want students moving here for the facilities, but that's something we've tried to stop doing because it's not a good reputation to have."

In a previous article in *The Tech*, a freshman cited Senior House's air conditioning and nice facilities as a reason he wanted to live in Senior House, so residents' concerns are not unfounded.

However, residents worry that the administration was basing decisions off rumors and stereotypes rather than from the reality of daily life at Senior House. Going forward, Senior House will be hosting more events and hopes that freshmen will take the time to visit and learn more about the culture in a hands-on way.

In this vein, Senior House residents have raised concerns that the data supporting the administration's conclusions was inaccurate. In an article in *The Tech* in July and again in a recent interview, Melvin requested the names and dates of the surveys used, but Chancellor Barnhart declined to provide the source of those data she used to make her decisions.

Some residents felt that the original announcement about the turnaround had an accusatory undertone, especially since the source of the data remains unknown. More information about the number of students who replied, the type of survey, and the method of analysis is needed to make a definite conclusion on the claims about drug use the Chancellor made in the email.

The email did link to hard data about graduation rates, but Senior House residents say that data — which cites rates from 2008 to 2015 — is no longer representative of Senior House's current culture.

The students in the data no longer live at Senior House — many have not for almost a decade — and Senior House residents assert improvements have been made since then.

Melvin said "it's frustrating because I think we've been doing a lot to make the culture healthier over the past few years, and that is not always acknowledged."

The abrupt announcement of Senior House's closing to freshmen caused issues for some families, especially those with existing tensions. The data presented in the email — highlighting low graduation rates and drug use — caused anxiety for some parents, who wanted their students to move out. Some students did move out, while others argued to stay. In an email, Barnhart stated she was unaware of these issues and was unable to provide a statement.

The Turnaround Team committees will meet next week to discuss progress and future plans. Barnhart did not provide any goals in her statement to *The Tech* but said she believes the result of the October meeting will be a set of concrete goals for the school year.

ANSELMO CASSIANO—THE TECH

MIT Symphony Orchestra opens the fall season Oct. 14 under the direction of Adam K. Boyles at Kresge Auditorium.

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A MISTI SUMMER

Biofuels and karaoke

My summer in Brazil

By Rebecca Grekin

This summer, I worked in a lab in Brazil at a university call UNICAMP. Working and living in Brazil was an experience like none other, and I learned so much about chemical engineering, biofuels, Brazil, and myself.

In lab, I focused on the production of ethyl levulinate which is produced from sugarcane bagasse, a biomass that is readily available in Brazil. Ethyl levulinate can be added to diesel to decrease transportation pollution, and this addition does not significantly decrease mileage like other currently available additives do. Most of my work dealt with helping to create simulations for the production of ethyl levulinate. We wanted to make a more categorical economic analysis of possible starting biomasses and process options. The goal was to determine the most promising combinations around the world.

In my free time, I explored different parts of Brazil and its culture. A very important part of this culture is soccer, and I got a once in a lifetime chance to experience the sport firsthand. When I went to São Paulo, I visited the Soccer Museum (Museo do Futebol) which gave me a taste of what it's like to be a soccer fan in Brazil. The museum was amazing and introduced me to several of the big names in Brazilian soccer, and it did a really good job of conveying the excitement of watching a live game in Brazil. However, nothing could prepare me for the actual Olympic soccer games I watched!

I was able to get tickets to the Canada vs. Zimbabwe and Germany vs. Australia women's soccer games, which were absolutely incredible to watch. First of all, because of the last FIFA World Cup where Germany creamed Brazil by 7 to 1, 99.9 percent of the spectators were rooting for Germany at the second game, which is not a very common experience — to have practically all the spectators rooting for the same team.

> **I found that there really is no better way to learn about Brazil than to share a house with 19 other girls.**

It was also amazing because although Zimbabwe was losing in the second half of the first game, most people ended up rooting for them, since Brazilians like supporting underdogs. When the game ended and the teams made their rounds to thank the spectators, you could see just how moved the Zimbabwe team was by all the support they had received. I'm not very emotionally invested in either Zimbabwe or Canada, but at the end of that first game, I was practically in tears from the pure emotion that was filling the stadium. After that experience, it was not hard to understand why Brazilians love this sport so much.

Another thing Brazilians take very seriously is their food, which is truly delicious. I even miss the basic rice and beans dining hall food — my friends at the lab thought I was ridiculous for enjoying it so much. I also tried moqueca (a bright orange dish made with fish and spices), catupiry (a type of cheese spread), and brigadeiros (chocolate condensed milk goodness). I had pizza with ketchup, cheese bread, honey bread, and so many other foods that make my mouth water just thinking about them.

I didn't even have to leave my living space in order to learn more about the country. In Brazil, there are no such things as university dorms, so I ended up living in the house of a very nice woman who rented out rooms to students. I found that there really is no better way to learn about Brazil than to share a house with 19 other girls. We had several discussions that ended up going late into the morning hours about differences in Brazilian and American culture, had karaoke sessions with Brazilian music, held many YouTube-watching sessions where I learned about all the cool, popular Brazilian YouTubers, and even had a Brazilian meme "lesson."

An aspect of Brazilian culture that I really admire is how the people are much more mindful of the waste they generate. Everything is done so that waste is reduced as much as possible. Labware, which is usually made of disposable plastic in the United States, is made of glass, washed, and reused numerous times in Brazil. Everyone recycles everything they can, people carpool as much as possible, and labs share equipment much more readily. This way of life made me become much more aware of all the waste I generate at MIT, and made me decide to be more mindful of my waste generation and strive to decrease it in the future.

My MISTI-Brazil internship gave me the opportunity to explore a new culture, learn a lot about a topic I've found I'm very passionate about, and make great friends. This experience was incomparable, and I cannot imagine a better way to have spent my summer.

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MOVIE REVIEW

The life and times of a loveable curmudgeon

A Man Called Ove warms the heart with rehashed plots

★★★☆☆

A Man Called Ove

Directed by Hannes Holm

Starring Rolf Lassgård, Filip Berg, Bahar Pars, Ida Engvoll

PG-13

Now Playing

By Krystal Lai
STAFF WRITER

Both the cover of Fredrik Backman's worldwide bestseller and the promotional poster for director Hannes Holm's film *A Man Called Ove* feature an old man and a cat against a dreary backdrop of subdued blues. Both follow the life and times of Ove, a grouchy old man who lives in a neighborhood full of people he seems to hate.

Book purists be wary. Holm is ready to admit that his adaption is not a line-for-line translation into film. When asked about his process, he said that "instead of stealing the story out from the book, I read the book so many times, and I gave the book to my mother, and then wrote my story instead. The trick is if you read a book and you really love it, then you tell the story. But the story you tell, it's not just the book. You tell your story."

The director described how he saw something in the book that really resonated with him. He saw a book about immigrants and a grumpy old man, but he said "when the author started to explain Ove's life, I could see my parents' life before we children came and I had the opportunity to shoot a film about my parents' life before we children came." Perhaps it is because of his personal and emotional connection to the source material that Holm is able to create a meandering film that isn't only about Ove's life from birth to death, but also a film about relationships and how they start and grow and then crumble and are rebuilt again.

Ove (Rolf Lassgård) is the classic grumpy man next door with quirks and opinions that he isn't afraid to share with his neighbors. When a new immigrant family moves in next door and flattens his mailbox, his anger and frustrations eventually morph into an unlikely friendship that send a ripple effect through other relationships in his life. Woven into the present-day narrative are also flashbacks of Ove's past, starting from his life as a young boy and detailing an exhaustive list of tragedies and misfortunes that presumably have formed his cantankerous character today.

If that all sounds a bit familiar, it's because it is. *A Man Called Ove* is a retread of the classic "grumpy old man has a heart of gold" trope. At times the film feels mechanical, not in its performances, but in the direction of its plot. Many of the scenes of strife and reconciliation function simply to check off boxes in typically-seen categories like "tragic circumstances," "comedic misunderstanding," "adorable meet-cute," etc. Although the film follows an archetypal formula, it is a formula that works. Despite the cookie-cutter feel, the tragedy of Ove's life is undeniably real, and the implications that his past has on his current demeanor and behavior can resonate with viewers.

The film succeeds by bringing depth and dimension to what otherwise would have been a flat, cardboard version of the quintessential grumpy old man. Rolf Lasgaard gives a committed performance that rides the line between serious emotion and well-timed comedy and truly embodies the internal conflicts that define Ove's character.

The film as a whole is a balancing act. Holm has spent much of his career in the 80s and 90s writing primarily comedic films. He admits that when he is writing scripts, he "often has the problem of sometimes [the script] can be a bit too funny and a bit too jokey. And that's not good. You want to have a balance. If you are too funny, you lose your audience and the audience will lose their sense of emotion in the film."

Holm takes death, loss, and the hardships of life and rounds out the sharp edges of the overtly gloomy with comedy, laughter, and ridiculous circumstances. A hissy cat, a tussle with a hospital clown, and an exaggerated feud between a Saab and Volvo owner are only a few moments that lighten the mood. Dark comedy also makes an appearance too in the film's running gag involving horribly executed suicide attempts that are always interrupted in the most inopportune ways.

"It's a film about life itself," says Holm. This holds true in many ways. Holm hopes that after watching the film, audiences will "go home from the cinema to some person that [they] love and hug that person because you never know when it's too late. Things happen in life." Though it doesn't really break any new ground, *A Man Called Ove* comfortably takes its place among the many crowd-pleasing movies that aim to warm your heart and bring a smile to your face.

MISIC BOX FILMS

Rolf Lassgård in A Man Called Ove.

DANCE REVIEW

Art, sport, or DanceSport?

World class ballroom dancing in Boston

American DanceSport Festival 2016

Oct. 8 - 9

University of Massachusetts, Boston

By Attila Forruchi

Is dancing a performance art or competitive sport? That is the question put before the International Olympics Committee (IOC), as it considers allowing competitive ballroom dancing in the Olympic games. To help the IOC make its mind, the World DanceSport Federation (WDSF) brought some of its best dancers from around the world to the Boston World Open for the first time last weekend.

Judging by their figures, power, speed, and all the sweating going on, it looked every bit as sporty as figure skating. Ballroom (or dancesport) is danced in two distinct styles — Latin and Standard — which are easily distinguished, if not by the music, then by the costumes. The Standard style is what you would expect ballroom dancers to look like, with elaborate, sparkling cocktail dresses and high heels for the follower, and tail suits with a white bow tie and patent-leather shoes for the leader. These outfits are complemented with fancy hairdos, spray tans, and over-the-top makeup for both. With so much attention to detail, the presentation style looked surreal, as couples danced, pranced, and romanced each other to exquisitely choreographed routines.

In the Professional Open Standard category, the night belonged to Benedetto Ferruggia and Claudia Koehler, whose performance made other couples appear to be moving in slow motion. With their hips glued to each other but their torsos a world apart, they performed an amazing routine with incredible speed and flexibility, while smiling and winking at the crowd as though they were strolling through the park. Not to be outdone and equally outstanding were the German couple, Simone Segatori and Annette Sudol, who won the Adult Open Standard Amature category. They were also the crowd's favorite couple and managed to exude elegance and ease while performing incredibly complex choreography.

Perhaps the most exciting couple of the evening was the world Latin dance champions, Gabriele Goffredo and Anna Matus from Moldova, who won the World Open Latin Amature division. Goffredo, with movie-star good looks, and Anna, with an incredible body that seemed to lack a spine, turned and twisted in every which way to the tunes of Samba, Cha Cha, Rumba, Jive, and, of course, the dance of the bullfighter, Paso Doble.

The night was a showcase of beauty, elegance, sex appeal and athleticism at its best. WDSF made a convincing argument to justify its inclusion in the Olympics. The festivities were co-sponsored by the Todos dance studio in Natick, whose owner, Ronen Zinshtein confirmed that he has big plans concerning the future of DanceSport in Boston in the years to come.

ARTS ARTS ARTS

ARTS ARTS ARTS

FILM FESTIVAL REVIEW

"Everything you do is fashion"

Established and emerging artists express fashion through a new medium

A Shaded View on Fashion Film

October 6, 2016

Museum of Fine Arts

By Mariam Dogar

When one thinks of high fashion, photographs of fancy models in designer clothing or long runways surrounded by flashing lights typically come to mind. However, A Shaded View on Fashion Film offers a different perspective of fashion. This film festival, launched in 2008 as the first of its kind by fashion blogger and critic Diane Pernet, studies the drama and power that fashion evokes and demands through artistic and creative performances, films, installations, and documentaries.

A Shaded View is groundbreaking because it departs from the conventional and stationary photographic medium in favor of highlighting the moving image. It is a platform for both established and emerging artists to present fashion by challenging the traditional limitations of film. This unique forum has brought together distinguished figures like Chris Cunningham, Tilda Swinton, Jean Paul Gaultier, Steven Klein, Yves Saint Laurent, Gucci, Sergio Rossi, Yohji Yamamoto, and Givenchy, spawning collaboration across disciplines. After its debut during Paris Fashion Week, it was showcased around the globe.

The films shown in the A Shaded View screening consisted of some of the winners and favorites of the festival. The Grand Prix winner in 2015, *Hungry for Love* by Justin Ambrosio, was a short film about two people who are compulsive binge-eaters and face similar social ridicule and romantic rejection as a result. At a diner, they happen to meet and spend the night together roaming around the city, eating anything they can find, enjoying every last morsel, and sharing their dream foods from other countries — until they both end up in the hospital with a health scare. The Grand Prix winner in 2014, *Jumper* by Justin Anderson, was very different; the film shows a beautiful but oddly robotic, naked man using lust to slowly tear apart an average family. All the characters are outwardly unemotional when together, but the drama increases with each disjointed clip of passion, resulting in a very interesting final effect.

One of the most powerful films was *Holi Holy* by Manish Arora, the Grand Prix winner in 2013 and a celebration of the widows of Varanasi breaking tradition and participating in Holi. This film starts out in a dusky, serious setting in a village where the main actress, Bishi Battacharya, masked and elaborately dressed, joins a group of young and old forlorn widows dressed in strikingly white saris around a temple. Suddenly, there is an explosion of Holi color and a celebration in the bustling streets of a small village where the widows, newly covered in Holi color, join the community once again with a beautiful and powerful melody in the background accompanied by Battacharya's voice.

After all the films played, Diane Pernet herself came on stage to talk about A Shaded View and her personal rise to success. She received her first degree in documentary film and entered the fashion world by working as a costume designer for *Elle* and *Vogue*. However, wanting to do her own work, she created one of the first fashion blogs and started the first fashion film festival. On making the decision to leave traditional fashion to move to film, she said she was asked, "Do you want to make frocks or do you want to make films?" and she felt drawn to the latter. Pernet is also known as a "godmother of new and upcoming talent."

This was my first experience of the kind, but I came away from it with so much appreciation for the types of fashion that I didn't know existed. One of the biggest impressions the A Shaded View screening and Diane Pernet's Q&A session had on me was that fashion is truly pervasive in everything. In many subtle shapes and forms, it plays an important emotional, social, and political role. Towards the end of her talk, Pernet said, "everything you do is fashion," and as I let those words sink in and thought about the impact and creativity of the films I had just witnessed, I realized their truth and significance. I would highly recommend these films to those interested in any art form, especially fashion and film.

101 THINGS TO DO
BEFORE YOU GRADUATE
32. Take a stroll through
Little Italy in the North End
Join the Arts department
at The Tech and write
restaurant reviews.
(And get reimbursed for your meal!)

FUNFUNFUNF

Saturday Stumper by Matthew Sewell

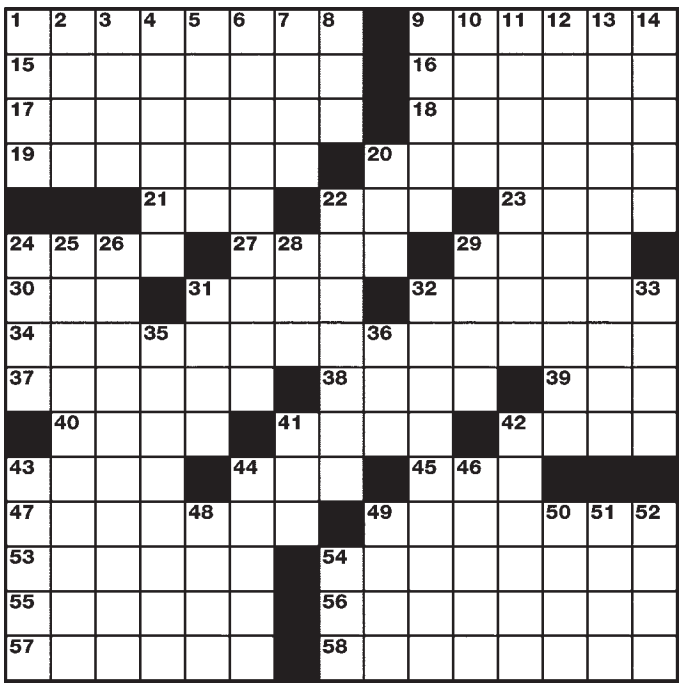
Solution, page 15

ACROSS

1 Quad developers
9 What many a team adopts
15 Aftermarket buy
16 Calendar starter
17 Charged thoughtfully
18 Ruffles
19 Played
20 Took many courses
21 Moving communication: Abbr.
22 Party __
23 Accordingly
24 Requirement for some fellowships
27 Omega-3 fatty acid source
29 Propel nonstop
30 Designee, informally
31 Space on a container ship
32 Shock-avoidance request
34 Reason for diminished returns
37 Far beyond patched
38 "__ it pretty to think so?" (The Sun Also Rises ender)
39 Not following
40 Sparkling
41 Pompous pronouncement
42 Some Sunday School drawings
43 Balky one
44 What a larva may become
45 Six-time award for DDE
47 "Not a surprise"
49 Leader between Jacques and François
53 Nicaraguan nana
54 Awesome prospect
55 Unoriginal, as bronze replicas
56 Gains elbow room, perhaps
57 Refractory response
58 Idle

DOWN

1 Term now sensitive for some Finns
2 Its 50 is getting a redesign in 2017
3 Some 2011 Ferraris
4 Owner of The Body Shop
5 They have shake-to-undo settings
6 Undoing of many Bard protagonists
7 Un tercio de los nueve
8 Brief yardstick
9 Certain Colonial-era protectors
10 Name on the cover of Breathing Lessons
11 Cato and Tacitus
12 Trend scout
13 Starting order
14 Puts a strain on
20 Vb. category
22 Razzie role for Silverstone
24 Echolocation user
25 1 or pi, for instance
26 Baker's butter substitute
28 OED initialism since 2011
29 Exhibit polypnea
31 Undo a body modification, perhaps
32 Bashes
33 Undone items
35 Visibly worried
36 __ group
41 Metaphorical obsession
42 Beyond good and evil



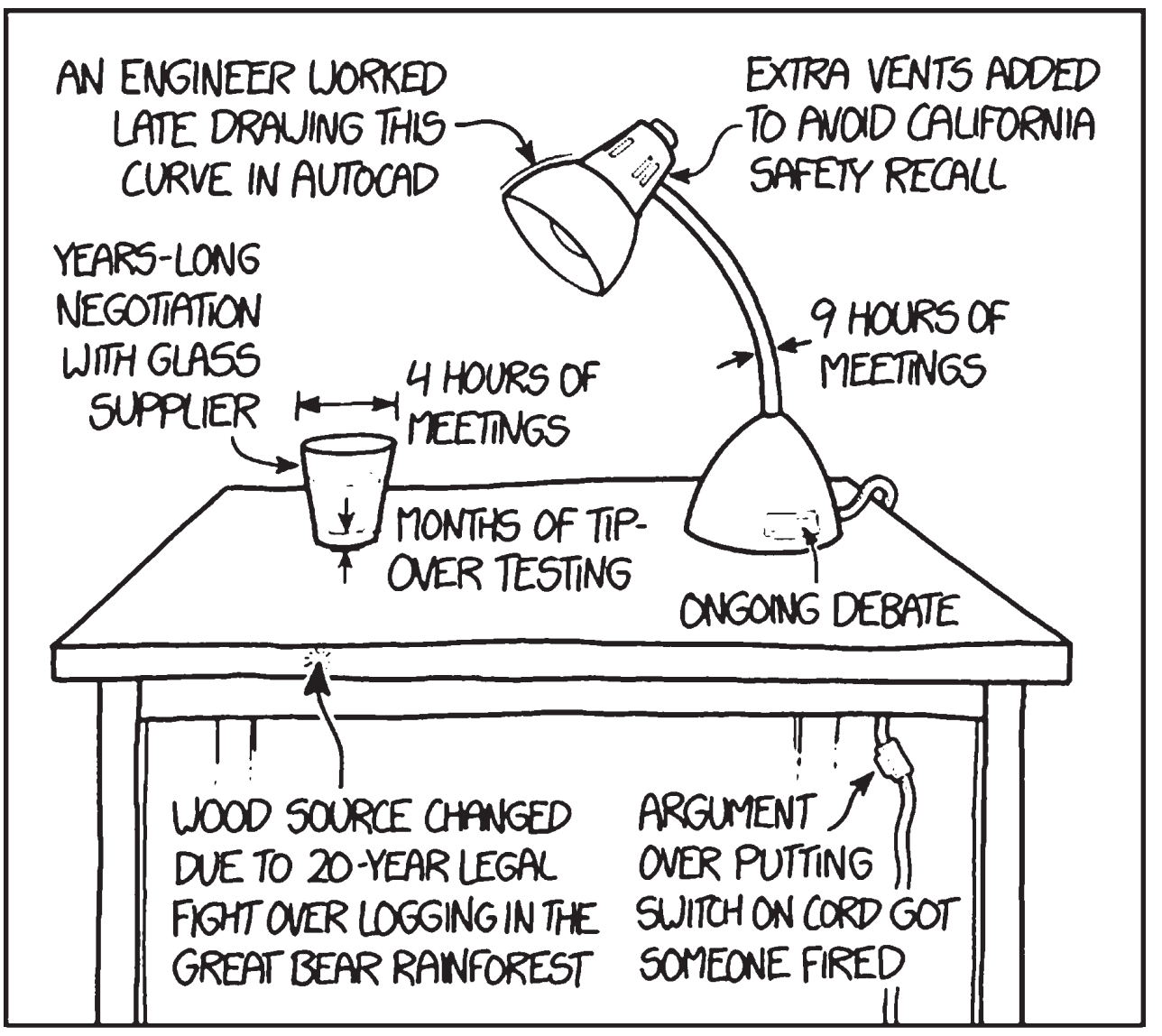
43 Contemporary R&B diva
44 Mythical lyre player
46 Word on some Oscars
48 "You may __ like" (etailer prompt)
49 Region touting "bottled poetry"
50 Put something on
51 It's between Minneapolis and Kansas City on I-35
52 Possible cause for a time-out
54 Rowling's Three Broomsticks

xkcd

A webcomic of romance, sarcasm, math, and language

by Randall Munroe

[1741] Work



Despite it being imaginary, I already have SUCH a strong opinion on the cord-switch firing incident.

FUNFUNFUNF

FUNFUNFUNF

Solution to Cubs

from page 12

2	7	8	9	4	1	5	3	6
9	4	6	5	3	2	7	1	8
5	1	3	6	7	8	4	9	2
3	2	4	1	8	5	6	7	9
6	8	7	2	9	3	1	4	5
1	9	5	4	6	7	2	8	3
8	6	2	7	1	9	3	5	4
7	5	9	3	2	4	8	6	1
4	3	1	8	5	6	9	2	7

Solution to Dodgers

from page 12

4	1	6	2	5	3
3	6	5	1	4	2
2	5	4	6	3	1
1	4	3	5	2	6
6	3	2	4	1	5
5	2	1	3	6	4

ALEXANDER C. BOST—THE TECH

Thatcher Chamberlain '19 and Noa K. Yoder '19 finish a race during this weekend's Oberg Trophy, hosted by MIT.

SPORTSSPORTSSPORTSSPORT

Solution to Blue Jays

from page 12

3	2	4	7	5	8	1	9	6
1	8	5	3	6	9	2	4	7
7	6	9	2	4	1	3	8	5
8	9	7	1	2	5	6	3	4
6	4	1	9	8	3	5	7	2
2	5	3	6	7	4	9	1	8
4	1	8	5	9	6	7	2	3
9	7	6	8	3	2	4	5	1
5	3	2	4	1	7	8	6	9

Solution to World Series

from page 14

5	9	4	7	6	8	3	2	1
8	3	7	1	9	2	6	5	4
1	5	9	3	2	4	8	7	6
9	4	8	2	1	3	7	6	5
3	7	2	5	4	6	1	9	8
6	1	5	8	7	9	4	3	2
4	8	3	6	5	7	2	1	9
7	2	6	9	8	1	5	4	3
2	6	1	4	3	5	9	8	7

Solution to Indians

from page 12

3	1	5	4	6	2
1	5	3	2	4	6
5	3	1	6	2	4
6	4	2	1	3	5
4	2	6	5	1	3
2	6	4	3	5	1

Solution to Crossword

from page 13

L	E	G	L	I	F	T	S	■	M	A	S	C	O	T
A	U	T	O	P	A	R	T	■	O	N	E	O	N	E
P	R	O	R	A	T	E	D	■	A	N	N	O	Y	S
P	O	S	E	D	A	S	■	A	T	E	A	L	O	T
■	■	■	A	S	L	■	B	U	S	■	T	H	U	S
O	R	A	L	■	F	L	A	X	■	P	O	U	R	■
R	E	P	■	S	L	O	T	■	W	A	R	N	M	E
C	A	P	I	T	A	L	G	A	I	N	S	T	A	X
A	L	L	N	E	W	■	I	S	N	T	■	E	R	E
■	N	E	A	T	■	B	R	A	G	■	A	R	K	S
C	U	S	S	■	E	E	L	■	D	S	M	■	■	■
I	M	A	W	A	R	E	■	N	I	C	O	L	A	S
A	B	U	E	L	A	■	P	A	N	O	R	A	M	A
R	E	C	A	S	T	■	U	P	G	R	A	D	E	S
A	R	E	T	O	O	■	B	A	S	E	L	E	S	S

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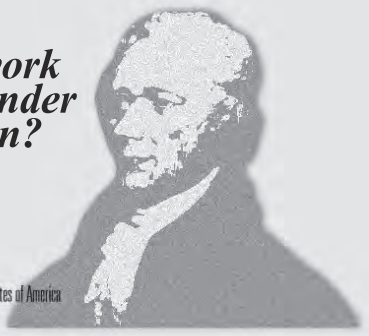

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